

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

SAQUETA WILLIAMS

Plaintiff,

v.

ROC NATION, LLC, et al.,

Defendants.

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Civil Action No. 2:20-cv-03387-ER

**JOINT MOTION TO MODIFY SCHEDULING ORDER**

Plaintiff Saqueta Williams and Defendants Roc Nation, LLC, Robert Rihmeek Williams, Shawn Corey Carter, Amazon.com, Inc., and Intellectual Property Corporation (together, the “Parties”), by and through their undersigned counsel, hereby move pursuant to Section II.B of the Outline of Pretrial Procedures before Judge Eduardo C. Robreno to modify the Scheduling Order in order to stay the pending deadlines in that Order. *See* ECF No. 32.

Following the Court’s Order granting in part and denying in part Defendants’ motions to dismiss, the Court issued a Scheduling Order setting initial discovery deadlines. *Id.* On November 2, 2020, Plaintiff filed an Amended Complaint. *See* ECF No. 33. Defendants intend to move to dismiss the Amended Complaint by November 16, 2020.

The Parties have conferred and agree that a stay of discovery is appropriate since the outcome of the forthcoming motion to dismiss could significantly limit the scope of discovery. “While the court should not automatically stay discovery because a motion to dismiss has been filed, ‘a stay is proper where the likelihood that such motion may result in a narrowing or an outright elimination of discovery outweighs the likely harm to be produced by the delay.’” *19th St. Baptist Church v. St. Peters Episcopal Church*, 190 F.R.D. 345, 349 (E.D. Pa. 2000) (Robreno, J.) (quoting *Weisman v. Mediq, Inc.*, 1995 WL 273678, \*2 (E.D. Pa. 1995)). “In other words, the court should carefully balance the relative benefit and harm that would ensue to each party from

the grant or denial of a stay.” *Id.* “Briefly deferring discovery in such a case, while the Court determines the threshold issue of whether a complaint has sufficient merit to go forward, recognizes a simple, fundamental truth: Parties who file motions which may present potentially meritorious and complete legal defenses to civil actions should not be put to the time, expense and burden of factual discovery until after these claimed legal defenses are addressed by the Court.” *Gadra-Lord v. Vuksta*, 2016 WL 930726, at \*2 (M.D. Pa. Mar. 11, 2016); *see also Pfizer Inc. v. Johnson & Johnson*, 2018 WL 1071932, at \*2 (E.D. Pa. Feb. 27, 2018) (granting defendants’ motion to stay “pending the resolution of their Motion to Dismiss”).

Here, dismissal of the amended claims could significantly alter the scope of discovery, and the Parties have agreed to a stay in order to avoid any unnecessary burden and expense of premature discovery and to ensure that any future discovery is conducted efficiently. As such, there is a good cause to modify the Scheduling Order, and the Parties respectfully request that the Court stay the discovery and other deadlines pending resolution of the forthcoming motion to dismiss.

Dated: November 4, 2020

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Alex Spiro, hereby certify that on November 4, 2020, I caused a true and correct copy of the foregoing Joint Motion to Modify the Scheduling Order to be served on counsel of record for all parties through the Court's CM/ECF system.

QUINN EMANUEL URQUHART & SULLIVAN, LLP

By: /s/ Alex Spiro

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